

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A method for growing a plant comprising the steps of:  
planting said plant in a growth medium;  
twisting at least two plant vines of said plant together to form a growing unit; and  
maintaining said growing unit during the growth and production cycles of said plant.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said maintaining step comprises the ~~steps~~ step of:  
securing one end of a flexible material at the base of said plant; ~~and~~  
~~twisting said flexible material around said growing unit.~~
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said twisting step comprises the step of:  
twisting said at least two plant vines together around a flexible material.
4. (Original) A yield maximization system comprising:  
a growth medium for sustaining the growth of a plant, said plant having vines growing from a single root system; and  
supports for twisting at least pairs of said vines around individual ones of said supports.
5. (Original) The yield maximization system of claim 4 wherein said supports comprise:  
a flexible material having one end tied around the base of said plant and the opposite end supported above said vines.
6. (Original) A method for growing a plant, said method comprising:  
twisting at least two plant vines of said plant around a flexible material; and  
securing said flexible material, wherein said at least two plant vines are twisted vertically around said flexible material.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said flexible material comprises string.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said flexible material comprises a rod.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for growing a plant comprising:  
planting a plant in a growth medium, wherein plant vines are produced from said plant; and

attaching at least a pair of said plant vines to one another with a flexible material, wherein said at least a pair of said plant vines are twisted together around said flexible material.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said attaching step comprises:  
securing one end of said flexible material at the base of said plant; and  
securing the opposite end of said flexible material at a height taller than said plant.